

REMARKS

Status of the Claims.

Claims 1, 6-19, 23, and 45-69 are pending with entry of this amendment, no claims being cancelled and no claims being added herein.

Obviousness-type double patenting.

Claims 1, 6-19, 23, and 45-67 were rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over claims 11-17 of U.S. Patent 5,801,021. Claims 1, 6-13, 23, 45-53, 58-60, and 63 were rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over claims 1-9 of U.S. Patent 5,892,010.

A Terminal Disclaimer is provided herewith thereby obviating this rejection.

Claims 68 and 69.

Claims 68 and 69 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims.

Applicants note that claims 68 and 69 depend from claim 1 which is only rejected under an obviousness-type double patenting rejection. In view of the Terminal Disclaimer submitted herewith, Claim 1 is allowable. Accordingly, dependent claims 68 and 69 are allowable as well.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believes all claims now pending in this application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner seek to maintain the rejections, Applicants request a telephone interview with the Examiner and the Examiner's supervisor.

If a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (510) 769-3513.

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Respectfully submitted,


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